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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part VIII)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Silvia Cristina CORADO-CUEVAS (Guatemala)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 96 (see A/51/604, para. 2). Action on sub-item (g) was taken at the 34th and 38th meetings, on 12 November and 2 December 1996. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/51/SR.34 and 38).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/51/L.22 AND L.34

2. At the 34th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Costa Rica, on behalf of the States Members that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/51/L.22) entitled "Report of the World Commission on Culture and Development", which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development,

"Recalling also its resolution 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/51/604 and addenda.

establishing an independent World Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission to submit its final report to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work,

"Noting that the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has sent the report of the Commission to the member States of that organization for their comments as well as to many non-governmental and academic bodies,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to further stimulate international debate on culture and development;

"2. Encourages the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to discuss the report further, taking into account the views, comments and proposals submitted by Member States, and to include those views, comments and proposals in the report to the next General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1997;

"3. Also encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account cultural, religious and other areas of diversity;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to compile a report taking into account the views, comments and proposals expressed by States and the relevant intergovernmental organizations;

"5. Decides to continue further consideration of the issue of cultural development at its fifty-second session."

3. At the 38th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Mohammad Reza Hadji Karim Djabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/51/L.34), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.22.

4. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Ireland (on behalf of the States Members that are members of the European Union made a statement (see A/C.2/51/SR.38).

5. The Secretary of the Committee informed the Committee that there were no programme budget implications for draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.34.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.34 (see para. 9).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Costa Rica (on behalf of the States Members that are members of the Group of 77) made a statement (see A/C.2/51/SR.38).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.34, draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.22 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the World Commission on Culture and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development,

Recalling also its resolution 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in establishing an independent World Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission to submit its final report to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work,

Noting that the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has sent the report of the Commission, entitled Our Creative Diversity,[1] to the member States of that organization for their comments as well as to many non-governmental and academic bodies,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to stimulate further international debate on culture and development;

2. Encourages the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session in 1997 to discuss the report further, taking into account the views, comments and proposals submitted by member States;

3. Also encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures;

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[1] Document A/51/451, annex, contains a summary version of the report.

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to compile a report on culture and development for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, taking into account the views, comments and proposals put forth by States and the relevant intergovernmental organizations concerning the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development.